9. Rs. 746 under "31-Scientific, etc., Department Geological Survey"

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*) : Sir, I rise to move an additional allotment of Rs. 746 under "31-Scientific, etc., Department—Geological Survey". The posts of the State Geologist and his peon were temporary and their term was to expire on 1st of Kumbham 1120. But as the services of the State Geologist are highly necessary for the development of industries, these posts were made permanent with effect from 1st Kumbham 1120. There is no provision to meet their pay from 1st Kumbham 1120. Hence an additional of Rs. 746 is necessary. I request the House to sanction it.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*) : May I know, Sir, what the Geologist is doing now ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*) : He is surveying various kinds of earth and stones and other things.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Any report is available ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*) : Yes.

Demand put and carried

10. Rs. 1,500 under "32-Industries (Reserved)—P. C. R."

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*) : I rise to move an additional allotment of Re. 1,500 under "32-Industries (Reserved)—P. C. R.". The allotment provided for the P. C. R. works of the Industries Department in the current year's Budget is only Rs. 1,385. But this amount is not sufficient to carry out the P. C. R. works of the Deprrtment satisfactorily, as the contractors demand very high tender rates. Hence I request the House to sanction this additional allotment.

Demand put and carried

11. Rs. 440 under "1-A-(f)-Temporary Establishment"

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*) : I rise to move an additional allotment of Rs. 440 under "1-A-(f)-Temporary Establishment". A clerk on the grade of Rs. 40—60 has been sanctioned to the Diwan Peishkar's Office from 1st Chingam 1120 in connection with the Paliam Settlement. An expenditure of Rs. 440 is required on this account in the current year under Temporary Establishment 1-A-(f). There is no provision in the Budget for the expenditure. Hence the additional allotment. I pray that this allotment may be sanctioned.

Demand put and carried

12. Rs. 8,500 under "1-Land Revenue—B-Advances—T.A."

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*) : I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 8,500 under "1-Land Revenue—Advances—T. A.". The allotment under T. A. for the Land Revenue Department for 1120 is Rs. 21,120. The balance of Rs. 6,856 available under this item will be hardly insufficient to meet the expenditure for the remaining months. Further increased expenditure under T.A. is anticipated on account of the ensuing Legislative Council Election, War Publicity meetings, etc. An additional allotment of Rs. 8,500 under this is necessary. I pray that this may be sanctioned.

CUT MOTION

***Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** (*Vadakkancheri*) : I rise to move that the allotment of Rs. 8,500 be reduced by one rupee. To urge upon the Government to arrange for more polling areas for the ensuing elections because of the great difficulties of transport. We are on the eve of election and arrangements are being made for holding elections before the monsoon sets in. Unlike the previous elections the one that is going to take place in a short time is one in which the persons who want either by persuation or by threat to resort to the booth find it in the most unenvious position of being not able to have a sort of conveyance from their homes to the polling booths. Even bullock carts are not available. That is the position in which we find ourselves to-day—not to speak motor cars. That statement is one of the realities of the situation which will not be contraverted. It is necessary to have conveyance for the voters who resort to these polling booths. If conveyance are not available, the only method is to have polling booths as near as possible. I am sure it will not be misunderstood that there should be polling booths in the home of every man or in the midst of 10 or 15 voters. That certanly will not be misunderstood like that. I have in my mind two polling areas in the Vadakkancheri constituency

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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which I had occasion to study. The Polling booth situated in a particular area, in an aided school is for as many as 500 and more voters, about 200 of whom have to come from a distance of very nearly between 3½ and 4 miles, to be more exact 3 miles and 6 furlongs. That is a booth, Sir, which takes in voters from two adjoining villages. There is no booth in one of the villages. My suggestion is if nearly 200 voters belonging to one of these two villages are allowed to vote in another Sirkar School whose distance will be not more than a radius of half a mile from every home in that village. From the stand point of the conveyance it will not be contraverted by the Government. Difficulty of making such arrangements will be the only argument, if it is the intention of the Government to oppose this motion. Now that the final list of voters is almost completed, I believe that it will be published in a few days, that being almost finished. If my suggestion is accepted to have more polling booths in the other village this list may have to be teachnically rearranged. But it is not an insurmountable difficulty. If only sufficient time is given for the voters to understand that the voters of a particular village namely Parlikad should go and vote in the school in their own village. If that information is given to them sufficiently early they by themselves or through the agents of the contesting candidate will be resorting to that school. Even without disturbing this arrangement keep another list. The Polling Officer in that newly suggested polling booth can know those who hail from that particular village as they perhaps belong only to that village and as the name of the village is noted against each name. If any one without understanding comes there he may be asked to go to the other place that is 2½ miles away. There will be only exceptions. Only persons belonging to that village will resort to that new area. I think it is better that I make this request through a petition addressed to the Diwan. The Hon'ble Government Member concerned being not in his seat when a reduction of his demand is proposed to be discussed. I am glad that he has now come.

Now, Sir, that is one possible objection that may be brought forward and I think that can be made like this. The other is to go in for more ballot boxes, consequent upon the duplication of the polling booth. That again is an imaginary difficulty. Now for arranging for the effective voting within the limited time all these 500 voters in the common booth, more than one box with the colour of the particular candidate will be necessary. That from experience will be known to the Hon'ble Member for revenue who is in charge of this work, and I also speek with my knowledge of such things. Now instead of keeping two boxes of the same colour in the common booth one of them will have to be taken to the new booth. One box will suffice for each one of the two booths, if the proposal is accepted on the ground of the necessity of having to arrange for more boxes. Therefore in a nut-shell it comes to this. If this proposition which has become absolutely necessary in the circumstances obtaining to day as far as the proposed elections are concerned, there is no difficulty really for accepting this. If it is not acceptable to the Government or to the Hon'ble Member in charge who will be speaking, I can characterise that objection only as absence of willingness to help successfully the election in the circumstances obtaining to-day. The result of not accepting this will be that not less than 50 % of the voters of this distant village will remain at home. They will not resort to voting. Now the question may be asked well there will be only a fall in percentage of voters that have come to the booth. That will be a fallacious argument in reply to the observations of mine. The object of election in any civilised country, should be and is to bring as many voters as possible to the polling booth. The purpose is to return the candidate having the representation of as many persons as possible in a particular area. It may raise the precentage of voters and not reduce the number of voters that come to the polling booth. If that principle is accepted and approved then the other question will not be asked. What is the harm if the percentage falls. That question should not come from the Government and I hope it will not come again with regard to the percentage. It will come to a case of capacity to pay transport charges in the circumstances now obtaining. A person who keeps at home is taken out of the house perhaps even against the wishes by the agents of one of the candidates who because of the local purpose he is able to command other tricks he may have to resort in these days. The difficulties of transport both for tyres, for cars, and also for petrol, these things will be felt by the person who wants to get votes. For all these reasons, Sir, respectfully place this suggestion before the Government for their kind acceptance.

***Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Sir, I rise to bring to the notice of the Government that the members who stand for election should have known the difficulties of the elections. Several members of this Council asked that the elections must be held and that a new council

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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should be formed. When Government accepted that demand for election difficulties are coming one after the other. The first difficulty that came here is the voters' list was very very unsatisfactory and we almost carried the adjournment motion but for the fact that adjournment motions cannot count with elections and also out of respect for the council and for ourselves. We agreed that the present unsatisfactory voters' list may go on. Sir, in Mattancheri where the Municipal Council and its servants know perhaps every individual in the wards several voters who were actually in the last list and in the interim list prepard a few weeks ago are not found in the present final list. In may own house we have 7 votes. There are only two votes. How we disappeared into unknown people, I do not know. In that way the list is so very unsatisfactory and therefore I tabled a resolution No. 152 which will never be reached so that the Government may know how bad the list is. The final list is to come on the 25th of this month. I hope at least I pray that a proper list may be prepared for the election.

Now comes difficulties of having polling booths very near by. I have experience of polling stations in the rural parts, for instance, Chalakkudy. The distance is very great. Voters walking to the polling station is out of the question. You may go to the Council, you can go without petrol, without tyres and without air conditioned tyres and the Chief Engineer has to give coupons, the election will be a farce.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Even if the cars are available how can the candidates hire carriages? There will be persons who say that carriages are not available for voters?

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Why do you think of the corrupt part of it? All these methods are corrupt. I came by the door of justice. Do yon see the difference? I say that shows the mentality, the subject of corruption that has crept into the minds of the people. I was only telling you that cars were not available, petrol was not available and even ordinary vehicles were not available, even bullock carts were not available for the voters. The voters must pay for their transport. My Hon'ble friend wanted the election to come and when the election came, he is coming up with all sorts of difficulties.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezuhthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I stick to that.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Then stick to the difficulties or get stuck with difficulties.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I will not.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* You will get stuck. This proposition, how can it help? How can the Government give a polling booth for every small area. Where are the men? How may men have to copy be employed? How much money has to be spent? You will have to ask for further Budget for this and there is no time for asking for a further Budget and you will have to asticipate and ask for another supplementary grant to create more booths. Unless that is done, it will not be possible to meet the expenditure. That is one thing. The list is improper. Locomotion is not available, and then paper. With great difficulty I got two or three quires of paper. The Hon'ble President said, "we are not going to supply paper". What are we going to have to print our hand-bills? On palmyra leaves? But we have no "ezhuthanies", because iron materials are not available.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What is the suggestion? Postponement of the election?

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattanaheri):* I do not make any suggestions. If you make a bed you have to lie on it. I will never stoop to practice anything that is forbidden. I am watching the election not only in one or two places. I can stanb in a few places and I will go over those places and if there is corruption, there will be a Court case. That is the way to do things. They who resort to corrupt practices must spend ten or twenty thousand and find the seat has gone. "Ayyo" what a calamity. Try to fight an election in the proper way. Let the voters come and vote. Why should you worry. Even if only 10 persons come and they vote and you get the majority of votes, you will be representing the whole people, even those who did not come to vote. That is the idea. Out of 20,000 voters, if only two persons come to the polling booth and they vote for you, you are not affected. If one vote and one for your rival candidate, there will be the returning officer's casting lot to put you in. Why should you want the voters to come. It is better that the voters don't come.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* That is a depraved mentality.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I say that voters don't come at your instance. If the voters are anxious, they will make their own arrangements. Why are you bothered? Why

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should you go and bring them? Why should you try to get cars and bring them to vote? It is said that people were even carried on stretchers by candidates.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : Political consciousness.

Mr. A. B. Selam *(Mattancheri)*: Political snobbishness. I am sorry I have to make these remarks. You really don't give real facts, and hide facts. Every member tries his best to send agents and cars and buses and bring the voters. That is the practice, that I know, and that is why I came here. The other man did it thinking that it was a legitimate act. Why this anxiety on the part of the candidates.

So, the position is the voters' list is improper, no petrol, no cars, no locomotion, no paper Therefore my view is that this election itself may be postponed. The Government must reconsider and see whether it is proper to hold the election now and whether it will not be proper to postpone it till a proper list is prepared and circumstances which will provide an active electioner campaign exist. Agents must be given cars by candidates. They must have facilities to move about for they are the men to move about and canvass votes and give information to the constituencies. Those facilities are not existing. I am not anxious of the facilities to be given to the voter to come but the facilities for the candidates to do proper electioneering work are not available. If you ask for Anchal cards the Anchal Superintendent will turn to you and say we have no cards to give you. Otherwise we can print our notices on the Anchal cards and post them only we will need the postal stamps. But that also will be a difficulty. Will you be able to supply Anchal cards in quantities? No, comes the answer. Then how are we to conduct this election as a proper election?

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnthukavu)*: The people will come and vote.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: On what issues are we going to fight election? Is it on the communist issue, or the congress issue or the Prajamandalam issue, or any other issue or your own issue. Whatever it is you must print and make people understand. What are the facilities? Therefore I do not wish to oppose the grant. Whatever the grant the Government want I will vote for it but I am pointing out these practical difficulties. There are no such difficulties in my constituency, because my constituency is a very compact constitucncy. Within a mile we have got 2 polling booths. We are not in the least affected by the proposition that has been tabled here. It is the rural constituencies that will be affected. There the distances are great, long and tidious and in the sun it is very difficult to walk in those parts.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural)*: No case arose there.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattanche.i)*: Therefore, Sir, I submit the list must be a proper one There are so many reasons for the impropriety which I do not wish to state in the open Council. It will perhaps come out in the end because there will also be some people who will bring cases. The people who have been defeatcd will go to court. Therefore, Sir, I think I have brought the difficulties very prominently before the Government and if the Government does not want to be a party to the farce of an election being enacted in the State. It is for the Government to reconsider the matter.

*Mr. K. Narayana Menon** *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Sir, I beg to take this opportunity to bring to the notice of the Government one or two points about the polling areas seen notfied in the Gazette. I am not for a moment to accept or to adopt any of the learned arguments of the Hon'ble friend who just preceded me. My only submission is that such of the polling stations and polling areas as existed in the year 1113 when this Council was first elected may not be given up especially in view of the fact that there are various inconveniences now attendance upon the voters to reach these polling stations. Further, Sir, there was the idea even in 1113 when the polling areas were rearranged that the maximum distance from one given point may not exceed between 2 and 2½ milles. But by the present rearrangement of polling stations there are certain polling stations the distance between which is four or four and a half miles not to mention the the various other difficulties. I am sure that the Hon'ble Member for Revenue will be able to find out such cases and personally I have informed him about one or two of which I am personally aware. I am bringing this to the notice of the Government so that such polling stations as have been abolished may be re-instated and the probable and possible arrangemsnts may be made to transfer votes in such proportion so that one area may not be blocked and crowded in one place and at the same time there are only a few hundreds in other stations. That rearrangements without any prejudice to the Government and without any additional expenditure

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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so the reprinting or recasting of the voters list may kindly be considered. That is my point, Sir

*Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Sir, I welcome the principle underlying this cut. motion. According to the democratic principles it is essential not only that a qualified person should have a vote but facilities should be given to him to exercise that vote. That principle as the Hon'ble Member for Vadakancheri said is correct. But now there are practical difficulties as pointed out by the Hon'ble Member for Mattancherri. Let me illustrate. There is a polling station in the Kodasseri village; the major portion of the village is under the control of the Conservator of Forest, *viz.*, the Anamalai road which is seventeen miles away. A voter living in this area has to walk 17 miles if he wants to vote. And how did he do it? This area can be divided into 2 polling stations one at Echipara and one at Kodasseri. In that case the voters' list requires rearrangement, the voters who vote at Echipara and those who vote at Kodasseri polling stations. For that there should be a rearrangement and a re-publication of the list. Republication is necessary because the people should know where they should go to vote. The people at Echipara might go to Kodasseri village Office and then they will be told they can't vote there and they have no time to go to Echipara and exercise their franchise. There was a case, an election petition. The people did not know where their polling station was. Sufficient notice should be given early as to where to go and vote. The rearrangement of the voters' list requires a lot of trouble. For instance, there is the Kodasseri voter's list. People who are living at Echipara have to be placed in the list for the Echipara polling station and those living at Kodasseri have to be included in that list. Within this short time, is it possible? The Hon'ble Member said something about boxes. The problem of boxes is nothing. In many constituencies there will be no contest. Those boxes can be carried to other places. The primary work is to rearrange and allocate the voters. That causes enormous difficulties in practical working. It requires field work. The Diwan Peishkar cannot sit in his office and arrange these things.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* This difficulty will not arise if a whole village itself is transferred.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* I do not know whether it is possible.

Then with regard to the difficulties of the candidates, the Hon'ble Member was saying that candidates have to get voters to vote.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I did not say so.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* The candidates never hire carriages. Some voters meet together, they will arrange carriages, go to the polling station and vote. There is no corruption at all. Even in the United States of America for the President's election, how many things are taking place. We are not unmindful of such things. The voters themselves arrange conveyances and they come to the polling stations. How are we responsible? There is no corruption. Therefore, Sir, if it is possible this can be done. I find there much difficulty in making these allocations.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Sir, I will explain the position of the Government in this matter. To accept this cut motion, or the principle that is suggested in this cut motion, certainly will create greater difficulties than giving little conveniences that are found to be wanting by adopting some such system. We have to rearrange the voters' list. Suppose a polling station A has to be split up into polling stations A and B, what we have to do is, we have to split up the voters' list as published, the preliminary voters' list. In the preliminary voters' list. the names are arranged in the alphabetical order. In the whole area, there may be ten Achutha Menons. One Achutha Menon will be at the northern corner, another Achutha Menon in the southern end and a third will be in the north-eastern corner and so on and so forth. Suppose this polling station A is to be divided into A and B. then those who have to vote in the polling station A have to be regrouped as Achutha Menon, 1, 2, 3, 4, and so on. That means that we have to practically prepare another preliminary electoral roll for that particular polling station. It requires more trouble than was required to prepare the original preliminary electroal roll, because that was more or less a copy of the old electrol roll with additions and subtractions in the case of change of registry; except for that, it is a mere copy of the last roll. The rearrangement means we have to work at it for probably days, if not weeks, and then prepare a list for each polling station, polling station A and polling station B. It is a very difficult task and within the short time that is available for us now it is an extremely difficult task. That is the thing that stands against the acceptance of this cut motion. If this suggestion was put forward earlier, an attempt would have been made.

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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Another thing that I would sumit is we have been at this for so many months. The Government have received applications for change of polling station from A place to B place, from A building to B building, but Government have not except in one particular instance received any demand from any constituency or any place saying, this is too big an area for a polling station, it must be split up into two or three. We have to use one polling station for a big area and therefore be good enough to split it up into polling stations A, B and C etc., We have received only one instance of that type and that on the merits we found was not a very reasonable request.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* So we were wise in not sending requests.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I did not say so. There was no demand from the public to put us on the guard to see that we rearrange the polling stations and have more. There was no request. That is why we did not raise the number. We had nothing else in that connection. According to the present arrangement, generally polling stations are not more than 3 miles distant. There may be places where it is more than 3 miles and people may be living a bit farther away. Generally we have taken care to see that the polling stations are so located as not to put people into inconvenience. In each constituency we have a number of polling stations and a polling station has as many polling booths as would be necessary to give convenience to all the voters in that polling station area to come in and vote. Increasing the polling booths is not at all difficult. But increasing the polling stations is an extremely difficult task for which we have to make our own arrangements even before the preliminary electoral roll is published, or at any rate soon after the preliminary roll is published. I would submit that on account of that difficulty it is now impossible to accept this suggestion and therefore I would submit that this cut motion may be rejected and the whole grant asked for may be kindly sanctioned.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnthukavu):* On a point of information, Sir, is there any special reason in reducing the number of polling stations from 1113. May I remind the Hon'ble Member that one of those was brought by me to the notice of the Hon'ble Member.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That was not a case of reduction.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Yes, it is.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is not. One building was used to locate two polling stations. Now it is made to locate three polling stations. So far as those polling stations are concerned, instead of X place, it is Y place.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Let me point out that in 1113 there were 13 polling stations, this year there are only 12 polling stations. At Peringavu, village office, Vilvattam, is not in the present list. It was in the list of 1113. My request is only not to omit the old polling stations.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I will submit with reference to that what I have to say. That was a list that was superseded by another list which came in between 1113 and now. Because the list is valid only for 3 years, there was a list prepared in 1116 in anticipation of election being held. At that time the change was made and it was notified when the preliminary electoral roll was ready. The final electoral roll also was published and then it was not there. We are not going back to 1113, but we are now following the electoral roll of 1116. In that this change was already made.

Mr. K. Narayana Mneon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I take it that the position of the Government is that even if hardships are pointed out, it will not be restored?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* If hardships are pointed out and if hardships really exist, the Government do not remain obstinate and Government are not obstinate.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* In that light, may I request that the matter may be reconsidered. There is absolutely nothing to be done now.

***Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir; I am not in the least satisfied with the difficulties pointed out either by the Hon'ble Member for Revenue who is in charge of the elections or by the veteran Member from Mattancheri or the Hon'ble Member who has no idea of standing again for Chalakkudi.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* I appreciate your difficulties.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Thank your, Sir. With regard to the difficulties of the Government only a solitary difficulty has been pointed out although I

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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anticipated there will be more than one. It is treated that if the proposition is accepted the voters' list will have to be rearranged and must be re-published. Now, Sir, we are to-day more than 2½ months this side of the election. And from the day on which the final list is to be published we are about a fortnight. I very seriously ask, Sir, where is the difficulty of re-arranging the voters' list as a result of a polling area A. B. being split inot A and B. Is it such an insurmountable-difficulty? If you sit with the papers before you the position is this. In a polling area consisting of two villages which I mentioned by way of illustration not only by way of illustration but it is actuality also—I take the very instance and you will understand that if there are two villages as there are in the present case, the name of 10 Achutha Menons beginning with the letter "A" there will be noted in the list the village from which he hails. So far as spliting this area is concerned it is a case of spliting out village A or separating villages A and B from the consolidated list of villages A and B together. And the request is not that every polling area is to be re-arranged. It is only in exceptionally difficult cases as the one that I pointed out that this will have to be done. It can be done not by sitting for weeks together as stated by the Hon'ble Member for Revenue or by doing field works as stated by the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudy. There is no survey to be conducted in the field for field work. The preliminary electoral rolls has to be kept before one's eyes and some pencil work alone has to be done which unless the person concerned happens to be an ignoramous it can be done in no time, Sir. And then it has to be printed if necessary, if the statute requires it has to be done.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*) : There is the time taken for this.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : Where is the time if there is the will as far as these polling areas are concerned it can be done in hours' time.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Trichur)* : It is not an easy joke.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : When difficulties are imagined for imaginations' sake they will exist in the imagination and they cannot be convinced by arguments. Therefore the difficulty of rearranging the voters' list is nothing serious. The question, Sir, is whether the Government has got the will as much as possible in their power to make the work of election as essy as possible and as effective as possible. Of course the observations emanating from a veteran friend from Mattancheri that the fewer the number of voters that go to the booth the better are quite unfortunate and I do not belong to that school. Sir, these subterfuges for having the life of the Council extended beyond seven years is a process which no one worth his name as the representative of the people should attempt. Although the resolution because of the ballet is number 152 he has discussed that. Very good I appreciate the cleverness but the very idea behind it, the object behind it, is most reprehensible. One who makes a request that the life of this Council may be extended by one day is I will say, Sir, a traitor to the country.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)* : Then you cannot have a properly conducted election.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : If democracy is properly understood if the position of Cochin is understood in the way it ought to be understood then the sly method indulged in by my Hon'ble friend will not be attempted. I am sorry, Sir, that I have to make these remarks. I am glad, Sir, that if the Government oppose the proposition he will support the motion. That is always like him. I do not wish to add anything more to expose the hollowness of the opposition to the motion. But it is not my intention to administer a defeat upon the Government. Whether we administer a defeat or not you have got your own methods. You have the constitution which says, all right let there be a unanimous vote we will go our own way. My object is not that. I have placed the difficulties of the voters, I have placed the difficulties that are there to confront the work for the election, I have pointed out the methods by which the difficulties can be obviated and I have pointed out the actual details of work. If that can be appreciated by the Government well and good both for the Government as also for the people who may be fortunately or unfortunately standing as candidates for the election, the farce of an election, to use the language of my Hon'ble friend because of these difficulties. But the remedy is not to put off the election but the remedy is to remove the difficulties. If the Government is willing they may be pleased to do it. There is sufficient time for them and let them act. With these words I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Cut motion by leave withdrawn

Demand put and carried

The House rose for lunch at 1—32 p.m. and re-assumbled at 2-30 p.m. with the Hon'ble Deputy President in the Chair.

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